

Albany

CHEADLE
Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer
of Health

1953

Cheadle Rural District Council.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending December 31st, 1953.

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REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending December 31st, 1953.

1. INTRODUCTION.

To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ending 31st December, 1953.

The report follows the pattern of previous years in being for the most part a history of the year's happenings and impressions rather than a comprehensive survey, although a certain amount of statistical detail has to be included for record purposes which taken by itself makes very uninteresting reading.

In general, the work of your Health Department was carried out smoothly and the year was uneventful. Some of our problems have become less troublesome than when I came to Cheadle five years ago. But, as is often the case, new problems are arising owing to new responsibilities coming to the Council, and owing to the increase in size of our existing commitments.

A Health Department is rather like the Post Office, in that little thought is given to it and its workings unless things go wrong. I can only hope that in the future the Department's work will continue to be as unobtrusive as it has been in 1953 and that its standards may be maintained.

I would again wish to express my thanks to your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspectors for the section they have contributed to this report, and for their help in general.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. TOMLIN.

Council Offices,

Cheadle, Staffs.

September, 1954.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Chairman of the Rural District Council : Mrs. H. M. GARDNER.

Vice-Chairman of the Rural District Council : Mr. A. SMITH.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1953.

Chairman : Mr. A. E. FOREMAN.

Members : Mrs. R. Berry, Mrs. H. M. Gardner, Messrs. J. H. Aberley, W. A. Ashton, J. H. Bailey, J. M. Berrisford, J. Byatt, J. Brindley, R. L. Carr, J. J. Chapman, P. Clowes, J. C. Cope, J. W. Crossley, T. H. Durdey, R. A. Evernden, J. Finnikin, F. R. Ford, J. R. Goodwin, S. E. Goodwin, D. Heath, W. H. Hewitt, J. E. Horton, S. W. Lees, S. J. Looker, J. Moffatt, G. W. Morris, T. Mottram, W. Podmore, J. Price, G. H. Shaw, J. W. Slater, A. Smith, F. G. Taylor, B. Tootell.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

E. H. TOMLIN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

A. P. KEEY, M.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.

R. COMLEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.

K. M. HAWKINS, Clerk.

STAFF : ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

J. W. BURTON, M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I., Engineer and Surveyor.

H. POINTON, Architectural and Town Planning Assistant.

T. P. HUGHES, A.M.I.Mun.E., Engineering Assistant.

H. F. PARRINGTON, A.I.M.S., Town Planning Assistant.

P. J. DREWRY, Clerk of Works.

J. SHAW, D.L.C. (Hons.), Engineering Assistant.

G. A. EVANS, Architectural Assistant.

M. H. J. EVANS, Engineering Assistant.

W. H. HOBSON, Clerk.

J. W. SHAW, Clerk.

R. SHEMILT, Shorthand Typist.

M. P. BROOKES, Shorthand Typist.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres).....	60,291
Registrar General's Estimate of population.....	32,850
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book.....	9,313
Rateable Value	£115,060
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£451 15s. 0d.

3. SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

No major changes occurred in the industries of the District, and full employment prevailed. Rising prices may have called for economies in family budgets, but judging by the good nutrition and clothing of the children it seems that except in a very few cases there has been no real want.

No case came to light when it was necessary for the District Council to take action to secure the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

I find no mention has previously been made in these Reports of the part played by the Cheadle Rural District in providing recreational facilities for dwellers in neighbouring towns. There are Youth Hostels near Oakamoor and Ipstones, and one just over our border at Ilam. There are at least three camp sites regularly used by visiting Scouts. The Alton Towers Grounds were again opened to the visiting public.

These visitors do not bring prosperity to us as do visitors to a seaside resort. At times the behaviour of some gives cause for complaint. Always campers and travellers may bring infectious disease into a community. Nevertheless, I feel that it can not be denied that the country and the towns depend on each other, and that these visitors are getting fresh air, exercise and a mental tonic which they may not find around their own homes.

4. HEALTH STATISTICS.

The Statistical Table "A" shows the general rates of births and deaths and also rates of notifications and deaths from certain specific diseases. Rates for Cheadle are compared with those for England and Wales as a whole and for certain classes of towns.

The Statistical Table "B" gives details of actual births and deaths as supplied by the Registrar General.

Statistical Table "C" shows the numbers and ages of notifiable infectious disease cases.

The following comment is made :—

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate for the District's population in mid. 1953 was 32,850 which shows an increase of 40 on that for the previous year.

Live Births.

473 live births were registered as against 466, 509, 484, 507 and 529 in the preceding years.

Using the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor this gives a birth rate of 15.2 per 1,000 of the population for the Rural District for comparison with one of 15.5 for the country as a whole.

Still Births.

With only 7 still births a rate of 0.22 is markedly less than that of 0.35 for the whole country, but numbers are too small to have real significance.

Deaths.

432 deaths were registered in the Rural District in 1953. Numbers in preceding years were 322, 344, 304 and 348.

The increase is undoubtedly due to the fact that a change in the national procedure for registration of deaths was made whereby a death in a mental hospital or chronic sick hospital was regarded as belonging to the area in which the hospital was situated instead of belonging to the area in which the patient lived before admission.

With the Cheadle Hospital and St. Edward's Hospital in the Rural District our death rate is obviously adversely affected by people dying here having probably lived the greater part of their lives elsewhere.

A general death rate of 13.2 per 1,000 (or 13.6 if the Comparability Factor is used) compares badly with that of 11.4 per 1,000 for the country as a whole but in my opinion any such comparison has lost its value.

Infant Mortality.

With 14 deaths of Infants under one year the rate of 29.2 compares reasonably with that of 26.8 for the whole country.

Maternal Mortality.

Only two deaths occurred attributable to child bearing. With this small number its expression as a death rate would have little significance.

Causes of Death.

Here again the inclusion of all deaths from our Mental and Chronic Sick Hospitals means that any detailed study of the causes of death has considerably less significance in showing local causes of death than was the case in previous years.

The numbers from selected causes are shown in Table "B." The commonest groups are Heart Disease 153, Cancer 63, Cerebral Thrombosis, etc. (Strokes) 46, and Respiratory Diseases 40.

STATISTICAL TABLE "A"

*Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality and Case-rates for
Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1953.*

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	160 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London.	160 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 — 50,000 1951 Census.	London Adm. County.	Cheadle Rural District.
Births—	Rates per 1,000 Home Population :—				
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	14.4
Still Births	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.21
Deaths—					
All Causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	13.2
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.09
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.37
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.43
Notifications—(corrected).					
Scarlet Fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	1.10
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	3.52
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.12
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	6.28
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	1.34
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis) Paralytic ...	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.03
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	
Puerperal Pyrexia	18.23*	24.33*	12.46*	28.61*	6.30
Deaths —	Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—				
All causes under 1 year of age.	26.8	30.8	24.3	24.8	29.2
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	Nil

*Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

STATISTICAL TABLE "B"

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT, 1953.

BIRTHS.						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Live Births—Total	....	....	....	....	....	234	239
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	....	225	233
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	....	9	6
Still Births—Total	....	....	....	....	....	4	3
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	....	4	3
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	....	0	0

DEATHS.

Total, all causes	....	....	....	....	....	220	212
Deaths of infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	11	3
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks	....	....	....	....	....	8	2
Deaths from Tuberculosis (respiratory)	....	....	....	....	....	0	3
Influenza	....	....	....	....	....	8	4
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	1	0
Other infectious diseases	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
Cancer of Stomach	....	....	....	....	....	8	2
Cancer of the lungs and bronchi	....	....	....	....	....	5	2
Cancer of the breast	....	....	....	....	....	0	5
Cancer of the uterus	....	....	....	....	....	0	1
Other malignant neoplasms	....	....	....	....	....	23	17
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....	0	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	....	....	....	....	....	27	19
Coronary disease and angina	....	....	....	....	....	27	18
Hypertension with heart disease	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
Other heart disease	....	....	....	....	....	38	68
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	9	5
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	16	9
Other respiratory disease	....	....	....	....	....	0	1
Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	....	....	....	....	....	3	0
Gastritis and enteritis	....	....	....	....	....	1	0
Nephritis	....	....	....	....	....	4	4
Enlargement of prostate	....	....	....	....	....	1	0
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	....	....	....	....	....	0	2
Congenital malformations	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
Motor accidents	....	....	....	....	....	4	1
All other accidents	....	....	....	....	....	5	3
Suicide	....	....	....	....	....	0	1

Registrar General's Estimated Mid. Year Population 32,850

Registrar General's Comparability Factors—Births 1.06 Deaths 1.04

TABLE "C"
Notifiable Infectious Diseases, by Sex and Age Group

				Scarlet Fever.	
				M.	F.
Numbers originally notified.	...	...	...	22	14
Final numbers after correction					
Ages—					
0...	...	...	...	—	—
1...	...	...	...	1	2
3...	...	...	...	3	4
5...	...	...	...	15	7
10...	...	...	...	2	1
15...	...	...	...	1	—
25 and over.	...	...	...	—	—
Age unknown.	...	...	...	—	—
TOTAL	...	...	...	22	14
				Ac. Pneumonia.	
				M.	F.
Numbers originally notified,				31	13
Final numbers after correction					
Ages—					
0...	...	...	...	6	3
5...	...	...	...	3	6
15...	...	...	...	9	1
45...	...	...	...	10	3
65 and over.	...	...	...	3	—
Age unknown.	...	...	...	—	—
TOTAL	...	...	...	31	13
Other notifiable diseases.				Originally notified.	
				M.	F.
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	—	3

5.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Tables showing the extent of piped water supply to properties in different parishes and also the result of water analysis are again included in this report.

As will be seen from the Surveyor's report (Section 12) the extension of the District's water mains has continued. The major project on hand is the provision of a comprehensive water scheme for Oakamoor.

It is perhaps worth recording that during the year a pump of the Cheadle Waterworks Company broke down at a time when the emergency relief pump was out of action. What might have resulted in a public health catastrophe was averted by the fact that the District Council's supply from Tean had been linked to the Waterworks Company supply with a view to helping out in just such an emergency.

Parish	No. of Properties with Mains Water laid on	No. of Properties using Stand Taps
ALTON	349	66
BLORE	0	0
CAVERSWALL ...	1,634	36
CHEADLE	2,214	68
CHECKLEY	642	65
CHEDDLETON ...	900	7
CONSALL	26	0
COTTON	73	1
DILHORNE	126	28
DRAYCOTT ...	250	4
FARLEY	27	0
FORSBROOK	678	14
IPSTONES	340	18
KINGSLEY	719	13
OAKAMOOD	121	50
WATERHOUSES	219	7
TOTALS	8,318	378

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

	Ipstones and Font	Werrington	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon	Kingsley	Tean	Cheadle
Total Solids dried at 212 deg. F.	17.0	19.0	14.5	16.0	11.0	17.5	25.0	33.0
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	0.0008	Nil	0.0044	Nil	Nil	0.0024	0.0004	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	Nil	0.0004	Nil	Nil	0.0032	0.0004	0.0004	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen ...	0.20	0.70	0.03	0.10	Nil	0.25	0.30	1.00
Chlorine ...	1.50	1.80	1.3	1.20	1.2	1.6	1.60	2.40
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	0.009	Nil	Nil	0.010	0.013	0.006	Nil	Nil
Appearance ...	No Colour	No Colour	Clear	No Colour	Minute trace of suspended matter.	Minute trace of suspended matter	Clear	Clear
Metallic contamination ...	Lead 0.005	Nil	Lead 0.02	Lead 0.008	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
p.H. Value ...	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.2	7.2	6.9

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION — WATER SAMPLES 1953.

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	Ipstones and Font	Werrington	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon	Kingsley	Tean	Cheadle
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37 deg. C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Probable number of faecal coli ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

6.

HOUSING.

In my report for 1952 opinion was expressed as to the District's housing need. The number of houses built and under construction in 1953 has been most reassuring for the future.

In 1952, with 169, more houses were built than in any year since the war, but in 1953 the number built increased to 235. The Council's building programme has been maintained and private enterprise building is going ahead at the same time.

The problem remains as to how the often impoverished landlord will be able to maintain his old house or houses in reasonable repair.

The Council is now prepared to assist by acting as guarantor towards the deposit called for by a Building Society, and it is to be hoped that a fall in house values may allow an increasing number of persons to obtain their homes in this way.

During the year eleven applications for grants towards improving houses (under the 1949 Housing Act) were made and five of these applications were approved, as compared with two in the previous year.

During the year seven unfit houses ceased to be used for habitation as a result of either Demolition Orders, Closing Orders or the giving of Undertakings as to usage. This of course does practically nothing towards meeting the problem of what is to be done about the large number of houses, upwards of 400 which were considered in the Rural Housing Survey to be "unfit" for habitation when judged by pre-war standards of housing.

The delay in dealing with this problem is, of course, due to the fact that if the Council closes a house it is responsible for finding alternative accommodation for the occupants.

7. SEWERAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Details of new works are given in the Surveyor's Report. The Draycott Sewerage Scheme has been completed. A comprehensive Sewerage Scheme for Kingsley has received Ministerial approval.

A further Scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry for the areas of Cresswell, Blythe Bridge, Forsbrook and Caverswall.

Details of the Council's Refuse Collection Service are also given in the Surveyor's Report.

8. FOOD AND NUTRITION.

No appreciable changes took place in 1953 and comment made in previous years still holds good.

It is too early yet to look for any results which may follow the ending of food rationing, the withdrawal of certain food subsidies and rising food prices.

The apparent improvement in milk purity recorded without comment in my report for 1952 has been maintained. Of 642 milk samples submitted to the Methylene Blue Test for bacteriological "cleanliness" 13.4% were found to be unsatisfactory. Figures for previous years were 16.7%, 18.7% and 34.4%.

Undoubtedly the trend is in the right direction although considerable improvement is still required.

The results of tests of samples for Tuberculosis were not so satisfactory. Of 399 tests 11 showed that the milk was infected with tuberculosis.

As explained in last year's report the only way in which the individual customer can guard himself is by insisting on pasteurised, sterilised, or T.T. milk.

9. SANITARY SUPERVISION OF THE DISTRICT.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Offensive Trades.

Mention has been made in the Annual Report for 1951 of the then unsatisfactory state of the gut scraping and fat melting factory within the District.

This factory during the year has been almost entirely rebuilt and rearranged with much improved workrooms. The employees there have better conditions under which to carry out their duties.

The drainage from these works has been connected with the main sewer at Cheddleton by the construction of a private sewer laid by the Council at the owners expense. The nuisances previously complained of are thus largely reduced, although a factory of this type needs the constant supervision of the owner and of the inspectorate if it is to be carried on without recurring nuisance. A sudden rise in temperature can give rise to various types of nuisances within a very short time.

Draycott Sewer.

During the year under review much time has been spent on the inspection of the drainage laid by the owners or Council connecting the house drainage to the new sewer which was laid during the latter part of the year. Most of the drainage was completed before the end of the year.

The private septic tanks were formerly constantly overflowing and giving rise to nuisances unless they were immediately attended to by the Council. There has been a great saving in Council's labour. The owners of several properties on this route have now been able to instal modern sanitary conveniences.

Well St. and Sun St. Cheadle.

A short section of sewer has been relaid at Sun Street and Well Street, Cheadle, to take the drainage from water closets which have been substituted for pail closets. It was found necessary to relay all the drainage there as it was found to be defective.

Fold Terrace, Cheddleton.

A section of private sewer has been laid to connect Fold Terrace, Cheddleton, to the main sewer and to enable the owners to provide modern sanitary conveniences.

Improvement Grants.

Applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act 1949 Section 20 have, owing to greater publicity, been increasing.

As yet no property or buildings have been acquired by the Council for the conversion of such to dwelling houses as may be carried out with the aid of this Act. No doubt advantage may be taken of the Section 23 to do so if suitable buildings are found.

Public Health Act 1936—Section 47.

Grants up to 50% of the cost of closet conversion continue to be made by this Council when appropriate under this section.

Forty-five conversions have been completed with estimates submitted amounting to £1,235-9-10. Final costs were approved at £1,125-19-0 with grants amounting to £526-19-6.

The cost per conversion amounts to an average of £25-0-5.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

A full-time Rodent Operative is still employed by the Council who is responsible for this work to the Sanitary Inspector. Quite a proportion of this operative's wage is recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and from the charges made for treatment.

Farms are also surveyed and reports of infestations given to the Staffordshire Agricultural Executive Committee who is responsible to us for the work of rat eradication on agricultural land and farm buildings.

Food.

Inspections of food shops are regularly carried out. The improvement in the display of foodstuffs for sale is increasing and back premises are generally speaking cleaner but there is still a section of shopkeepers who are careless as to the state of their premises where the stock is stored and where the shoppers have no access.

Infectious Diseases.

Number of visits	....	....	....	....	22
Number of disinfections	....	....	....	....	23

Bakehouses.

Number on register	....	....	....	....	9
Number of inspections	....	....	....	....	19

Slaughterhouses.

Number of premises in use	....	....	....	....	6
Number of inspections	....	....	....	....	11

Offensive Trades.

Number on register	3
Number of inspections	43

Shops Acts.

Number of inspections	190
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Petroleum Acts.

Petrol Licences issued	81
Carbide Licences issued	0
Number of inspections	15

Factories and Workshops.

Number on register	....	....	....	....	124
Number using mechanical power	....	....	....	....	71
Number of inspections	....	....	....	....	52

Details of Miscellaneous Food Surrendered.

618 tins of Miscellaneous Foods.	87 lbs. of Sausage.
30 lbs. of Ham.	18 lbs. of Tongue.
	28 lbs. of Cocoanut.

Letting of Houses.

Number of houses occupied during the year 1953	....	....	156
Number of persons rehoused	....	....	575
Number of persons housed per dwelling	....	....	3.68

Housing Act 1936.

Number of Demolition Orders made	....	....	....	2
Number of Undertakings given	....	....	....	3
Number of Closing Orders made	....	....	....	2

Housing Act 1949.

Number of enquiries made	....	....	....	22
Number of applications made	....	....	....	11
Number of applications approved	....	....	....	5
Amount of Grants	....	....	....	£1,102-17-10

Rodent Control.

Number of contracts	....	....	....	23
Amount of contracts	....	....	....	£120-11-3

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	53	52	1	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	71	—	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	124	52	1	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS.	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S1) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work). ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	3	3	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Description of Visits.	Inspections and observations made.	Notices Served		Notices Complied with
		Informal	Formal	
To Complaints & Nuisances	510	122	35	162
Food Premises ...	115			
Food Inspection ...	62			
Ice Cream ...	39			
Farms & Dairies ...	86			
Housing Act 1936 ...	56		5	5
Housing Act 1949 ...	131			
Housing Applications ...	929			
Slaughterhouses ..	11			
Offensive Trades ...	43			
Conversions ...	226	14	20	36
Drainage ...	254	38	9	50
Water Connections ..	36			
Water Samples ..	92			
Water Supplies ...	99	1	1	2
Shops Acts ...	190			
Bakehouses ...	19			
Factories and Workshops	52			
Infectious Diseases ..	22			
Disinfections ...	23			
Rodent Control ..	64			
Scavenging ...	35	13		10
Schools ...	2			
Petroleum Acts ..	15			
Movable Dwellings ..	1			
Revisits of Complaints ...	101			
Interviews and other visits ...	554			
TOTALS ...	3,767	188	70	265

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASE, PREVALENCE AND CONTROL.

Notification. Details of notifications are given in Table C. The usual seasonal periods of prevalence of Scarlet Fever, Measles and Whooping Cough occurred, but numbers were not sufficiently high to call for any special comment.

The three dysentery cases were all in one family, and the diagnosis made on clinical grounds only.

The one case of anterior poliomyelitis occurred in a man working and presumably infected outside the district. Although accompanied by some paralysis it was not serious.

In general the year was uneventful so far as notifiable infectious disease was concerned.

Epidemic Vomiting. A small outbreak of Epidemic Vomiting occurred at Wetley Rocks Primary School. Although this is a minor epidemic disease and causes little beyond inconvenience to the individual sufferer it can and does cause much upset in a community such as a school and calls for considerable work in investigation as the disease presents many characteristics of more serious disease such as dysentery or food poisoning.

Forty cases occurred out of a school population of a hundred and sixty-two.

The disease was mild and in only two cases was medical aid called in.

The diagnosis was made on symptomatology, epidemic pattern, and a negative bacteriology.

The rapid spread and brief duration of the outbreak suggested a high degree of infectivity to susceptibles and a short incubation period. (Occurrence of secondary cases in homes suggested the latter was under two days).

The infection rate around 25% occurred in all age groups, including the adults.

Tuberculosis—Mass Radiography. The year 1953 was eventful in that for the first time the Cheadle District was visited by a Mass Radiography Unit.

The Unit offered a Chest X-ray examination not to the sick but to supposedly healthy adults—a large scale health check up.

The prime purpose was, of course, to detect early or unsuspected cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. The cases discovered had a better chance of quick cure. The remainder of the public were freed from risk of infection by cases which would have otherwise for a time at least been undiscovered.

The unit spent about ten days in the Cheadle District, visited two of the larger industrial concerns, and also operated at a hall in Cheadle Town.

Three thousand, three hundred and fourteen persons were X-rayed, 8 cases of active or significant tuberculosis were brought to light, as also were 29 cases of pneumoconiosis, and 22 cases of other chest complaints.

The active tuberculosis rate of 2.4 per 1,000 was slightly below that of 2.9 found in the country as a whole.

The experiment was gratifying in that results justified its expense, and in that there seemed little reluctance to undergo a "check up" through fear of the possible findings.

It was disappointing in that many people did not bother to avail themselves of the opportunity. Attendances were better when the Unit was operating from Uttoxeter, Leek and Biddulph.

With only one Radiography Unit available in North Staffordshire it is unlikely it will again be able to visit Cheadle for perhaps three years. If through poor public response the Unit does not work to its maximum capacity it is unlikely a second will be provided, as they are costly and can not be allowed to be idle. For this reason I hope for a better public response when next we are visited.

Tuberculosis—Notification of cases. 17 male and 8 female cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, and 4 male and 1 female cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The total of 25 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis compare with 29, 26, 16, 20 and 19 in previous years.

Two deaths from tuberculosis occurred.

Diphtheria Immunisation. During the year 238 children under five and 22 children over five years received a course of primary immunisation and in addition 302 children received a re-inforcing dose.

Recent events elsewhere in the country have shown that primary immunisation is not enough to prevent an outbreak of diphtheria from occurring. The protection given is not sufficiently lasting and a further injection should be given after, say four or five years.

Whooping Cough Immunisation. While not perhaps giving the same degree of protection as is given by diphtheria immunisation, I believe this is harmless and of value. I know many general practitioners in the district would agree with me. Towards the end of 1953 the Staffordshire County Local Health Authority decided that encouragement should be given to mothers wishing to have their children immunised against Whooping Cough and as in the case of Diphtheria this can now be obtained at local authority clinics as well as from the family doctor.

11. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These remain as outlined in my report for 1949, except that the Cheadle Isolation Hospital which had been lying empty for some years has now been opened for cases of chronic sickness.

12. DETAILS OF NEW WORKS, ETC., REPORTED BY THE SURVEYOR.

Cheddleton Water Supply.

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1953, to 31st December, 1953, was

108,572,500 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 297,459 gallons.

Tean Water Supply.

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1953, to 31st December, 1953, was

25,618,000 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 70,186 gallons.

Hollington Water (Hollington Supply).

The amount of water supplied to the general public from this station from 1st January, 1953, to 31st December, 1953, was

39,404,000 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 107,957 gallons.

Cauldon Low Water Supply.

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1953, to 31st December, 1953, was

17,563,000 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 48,118 gallons.

SEWER EXTENSIONS.

Blythe Valley Sewerage Scheme.

The construction of the Blythe Valley Sewerage Scheme by the Cheadle Rural District Council, the Stoke-on-Trent City Sewage Department and the Stone Rural District Council is approaching completion. It is anticipated that although the scheme will not be finally completed, the Sewage Disposal Works at Deadman's Green will be ready for the treatment of sewage within a month. The main scheme should be finalized in approximately six months time.

A further scheme has been prepared and is being submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for his approval for the sewerage of the areas of the Rural District within the Blythe Valley which can be gravitationally drained to the trunk sewer, viz. Cresswell, Blythe Bridge, Forsbrook, Caverswall, Cookshill and Weston Coyney. This proposal envisages the laying of a total of 4,275

lineal yards of sewers varying in diameter from 6" to 12" together with the construction of 59 manholes. It is estimated that the scheme will serve approximately 1,411 properties, and on completion the Weston Coyney, Forsbrook and Cresswell Sewage Works will be superseded.

Draycott Sewerage Scheme.

The comprehensive scheme for the drainage of old and new Draycott, consisting of the laying of approximately 145 yards of 12" 2192 yards of 9" and 3717 yards of 6" diameter gravity sewers, together with the construction of 73 manholes has been completed and the scheme has been connected to the main Blythe Valley Sewer. Immediately the Blythe Valley Sewage Works is ready it will be open to all properties at Draycott to connect to the new sewers.

Coal Industry Housing Association, Housing Site, Weston Coyney.

The construction of sewers on the above housing site by the Coal Industry Housing Association is approaching completion. The scheme entails the laying of approximately 4575 lineal yards of foul sewers and 4750 lineal yards of surface water sewers varying from 6" to 21" in diameter, together with the construction of 208 manholes. The sewerage for the site is based entirely on the separate system, the foul sewers discharging into the trunk Blythe Valley Sewer and the surface water sewers into the River Blythe.

Brookhouse Lane, Bucknall.

Approximately 33 lineal yards of 9" diameter glazed stoneware sewer have been laid at Brookhouse Lane, Bucknall, to connect an existing private sewer to the Council's existing main sewer. This work has been carried out to overcome a nuisance caused by the existing private system.

Waterhouses.

The reconstruction of the sewage disposal works at Waterhouses together with the laying of foul and surface water sewers to serve the new Council housing site is approaching completion. The sewage disposal works on completion will consist of sedimentation tanks, bacteria bed and humus tank; the effluent will discharge into the existing brook and the works will serve both the existing and proposed housing sites.

Kingsley.

A comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of Kingsley and Kingsley Holt has been prepared, a local enquiry has been held, and the scheme has been approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government. The Minister is not prepared to allow immediate construction of the scheme, but is being pressed by the Council for an early starting date.

The scheme envisages the complete sewerage of the village of Kingsley and of that part of Kingsley Holt not already sewered. It is proposed that two sewage disposal works shall be constructed, one to serve each area. The Kingsley Works will be sited in the valley to the South West of Church Farm and will consist of detritus tanks in duplicate, two continuous flow rectangular sedimentation tanks, one storm water tank, two circular bacteria beds and humus tanks in duplicate together with pump house, mess room and sludge beds, the effluent to discharge into the Kingsley Brook. The small Kingsley Holt Works will be sited in Lockwood Wood and will consist of a single detritus tank, two sedimentation tanks, one bacteria bed, one humus tank and sludge beds, the effluent again to discharge into the Kingsley Brook. The scheme should result in the prevention of the present considerable pollution of the brook and the nuisance caused thereby.

WATER EXTENSIONS.

Wallmyres Pumping Station.

Following the sinking of the second borehole at Wallmyres and the construction of a new pump house, the booster pump has now been delivered and tested. The pump is a duplication of the present machinery as a safeguard against mechanical breakdown.

Wallmyres to Bolton Gate, Weston Coyney.

The laying of approximately 2800 yards of 6 inch diameter C.I. water main has been completed. The scheme is a duplication of an existing main, the object being to increase the supply to the Hardiwick and Tickhill areas and to maintain the supply to Weston Coyney in view of the extensive development in the area. The main also supplies the Coal Industry Housing Association Site at Weston Coyney.

Leafields.

The laying of approximately 787 yards of 3" diameter C.I. water main to replace a length of 1" diameter pipe has been completed. The new main supplies a number of farms and cottages between Kingsley Moor and Cheadle.

Coal Industry Housing Association, Housing Site, Weston Coyney.

A scheme for the supply of water to houses on the above site has been completed. 2920 yards of 3" diameter C.I. water main have been laid ready for the construction of the houses.

Oakamoor.

Work has been commenced on the construction of the comprehensive water scheme for the village of Oakamoor. Water will be supplied from the Council's reservoir at Counslow, the source of water being at Tean. The scheme consists of the laying of approximately 7940 yards of 3" and 4" diameter Cast Iron and Asbestos Cement water mains and will afford a supply to the properties at Oakamoor, Hawksmoor and Stoneydale.

Tean Public Conveniences.

During the year the Tean Public Convenience has been completed. This is situated at New Road, Tean. The building appears to have been greatly appreciated by the general public, particularly as Tean serves as a bus exchange station for various routes. The convenience is considerably used by drivers of vehicles using the trunk road through Tean.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Household refuse is collected throughout the whole of the Rural District as far as is practicable on a weekly basis, the work being done entirely by the Council's direct labour force with the exception of one parish, the latter being done by contract and operates in the Parish of Waterhouses.

Six covered vehicles are in use for the collection of ashes and three nightsoil tank vehicles for removing the contents from privy pails and cesspools from the outlying parts of the district where the properties are not sewered. The household refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in various parts of the district.

All vehicles are housed and maintained at the Council's Depot in Ashbourne Road, Cheadle, where the collectors report for duty.

The Council's sewage, water and housing maintenance workmen also operate from this Depot and in connection with the latter three services, two open-topped lorries are used and two 10 cwt. vans.

HOUSING.

The number of houses erected and completed during the year was :—

By Local Authority	....	....	150
By Private Enterprise	....	....	85
Total			235

Cheadle, Well Street—Robina Drive.

During the year 22 houses have been completed and 20 houses and 2 bungalows are still under construction on the site.

Cheadle—Dandillions Site.

The Council have acquired a site of approximately 9.737 acres linking Tean Road and Station Road, Cheadle. A layout has been prepared and approved to accommodate approximately 90 houses including provision for four shops. Work has commenced on the construction of the streets, foul and storm water sewers.

A contract for 22 houses has been let and the houses are now under construction.

Cheadle—Churchill Road.

A contract has been let to build two bungalows on the corner site of Churchill Road and Victory Crescent, and the work is now under construction.

Cheadle—Depot Yard.

The Council have built a further two houses on the site adjoining the Depot Yard, Cheadle. These were carried out and completed by direct labour and are tenanted.

Cheddleton.

During the year 20 houses have been completed with 12 houses still under construction.

Farley.

Two houses on this site have been completed during the year. These houses make a total of 6 which completes the development of the site.

Kingsley.

The whole of this site has been completely finished during the year including the building of 14 houses and the construction of the new streetworks and foul and surface water sewers. This site is attractively laid out and makes a pleasing contribution to the development of Kingsley.

Vicarage Road, Tean.

The final 2 houses on this site have been completed.

Waterhouses.

The Council have acquired approximately 1.89 acres at Cross Lane and Waterfall Lane, Waterhouses. The site has been laid out and a contract let for 18 houses which are at present under construction. The site is within the area of the Peak Park Planning Board and special care has been taken in the choice of materials to harmonise with the surrounding countryside.

The Wentlows, Tean.

The preliminary streetworks, laying of foul and storm water sewers have been completed on this site. During the year 8 houses have been completed and 22 houses are still under construction.

Dilhorne.

The Council have acquired a site of approximately 0.69 acres at Dilhorne and a contract to build 8 houses has been entered into.

Werrington.

During the year 16 houses have been built which completes the building development of this site. In addition the finishing off of the streetworks has been completed and the housing site now forms a pleasing estate of 62 houses.

Tithebarn, Alton.

During the year 12 houses have been built. These houses completed this site of 18 houses. Also Saltersford Lane has been widened and resurfaced, making an attractive approach to the houses.

Blythe Bridge.

The Council have acquired 5.5 acres of land adjoining the existing Council housing site at Blythe Mount. The new site will accommodate approximately 60 houses. A contract has been commenced for the erection of 8 houses and a block of 4 flats. The preliminary construction of the streetworks, foul and surface water sewers have been completed.

Private Enterprise.

The number of houses being built other than by the Council at present under construction within the Rural District is 295. These include 226 houses being built for the Coal Industries Housing Association at Weston Coyney. The latter is part of a scheme for providing 404 houses of non-traditional construction for the housing of miners.

